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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Assistant Director for Operations

DATE: 29 January

FROM : General Counsel

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SUBJECT: Longevity Recognition for Foreign National and Native Employees

REFERENCE: Memorandum of 12 January 1953 to Assistant Director for Operations from Chief, [REDACTED]

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1. This office perceives no legal objection to the making of suitable awards to foreign national and native employees of [REDACTED] in recognition of longevity. It is well known that this is done in various ways throughout the government in the form of certificates, lapel emblems, chairs to Cabinet members, etc. However, it should be pointed out that the matter of longevity awards is one over which jurisdiction is being exercised by the CIA Career Service Board and by the Working Group on Honor Awards under the Career Service Board supervision.

2. The Career Service Board has not recommended the granting of longevity awards to other than staff employees and staff agents. (Even here it has been recommended that the awards to these employees not be put in their unqualified possession until they permanently leave the agency.) In other words the agency has not seen fit to extend this recognition to aliens, or to contract employees who are United States citizens. As evidence of this, the recent letter of the Director to employees who have served 10 years in the field of intelligence was directed only to staff employees and staff agents.

3. In short, while no legal objection is seen to the presentation of longevity awards to [REDACTED] employees, the appropriateness of the presentation of such awards to other than staff agents of staff employees involves a matter of policy not within the jurisdiction of this office.

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LAURENCE R. HOUSTON

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